

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) Process for the selective separation of iron present in a solution in the presence of other metal ions, including vanadium, comprising treating the solution with an ion-exchange resin comprising diphosphonic acid groups.

2. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the ion-exchange resin comprises sulphonic groups.

3. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the solution comprising the metal ions is at a pH of less than 3.

4. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the solution results from a process for the oxidation of organic compounds in the presence of a catalyst.

5. (Currently Amended) Process for the recycling of a catalyst in a reaction for the oxidation of ~~an organic compound~~ alcohols and/or ketones to carboxylic acids in the presence of a catalyst comprising metal elements, comprising treating a solution comprising the catalyst, after separation of at least the compounds resulting from the

oxidation, with an ion-exchange resin comprising diphosphonic acid groups, in order to fix iron present in the said solution, and in recycling said solution, depleted in iron, as catalytic solution for the oxidation reaction.

6. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 5, wherein the ion-exchange resin comprises sulphonic groups.

7. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 5, wherein the oxidation reaction is carried out while using, as an oxidizing agent, a compound selected from the group consisting of oxygen, air, peroxides, aqueous hydrogen peroxide solution and nitric acid.

Claims 8-13 (Canceled)

14. (New) Process according to claim 4, wherein the oxidation is of an alcohol and/or ketone to form a carboxylic acid.

15. (New) Process according to claim 5, wherein the oxidation reaction comprises oxidizing cyclohexanol and/or cyclohexanone to form adipic acid.